UNESCO
SOURCES
N° 39 - JULY-AUGUST 1992

THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION 20 YEARS LATER

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The Réunion des musées nationaux is responsible for promoting and developing the heritage of the thirty-four national museums in France, such as the Louvre, the Musée d'Orsay and Versailles.

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When preparing these exhibitions, the Réunion des musées nationaux is constantly called upon to work in close collaboration with the great museums throughout the world. It also maintains a privileged relationship with numerous enterprises practising sponsorship.

Part of its essential role as publisher and distributor for the museums consists in editing a catalogue listing over six hundred titles. The Réunion des musées nationaux proposes moreover a very wide choice of mouldings and articles copied from or inspired by works held in the national museums.

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FINDING THEIR VOICE

After the three Baltic nations (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania), UNESCO has welcomed into the fold five former Soviet states (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova) and two Balkan republics (Croatia and Slovenia). With new arrivals still to come the number of Member States will have increased by more than a dozen.

The last such wave which dates back to the days of decolonization, which let us hear the previously gagged voices of entire continents. This time, instead of whole ensembles singing in unison, we are likely to hear the still somewhat muted polyphony of the individual players that made up these blocs. And such is indeed the wish of these new nations.

Their complete emancipation and the radical transformation of their economic structures are often hampered by the sclerosis of their educational systems, weaknesses in their information networks, the exodus of their professionals and intellectuals, and environmental degradation - to mention only UNESCO's concerns. It is primarily in these fields that they have asked UNESCO for help. But their priorities - and the fundamental reason for their membership to the Organization - go beyond this.

Their first concern is the affirmation of their cultural identity: seeking their own resources while attempting a direct dialogue with other cultures. The task is a delicate one: reconciling the passionate desire for recogition of both majority and minority groups and at same time opening up to the world, is no easy matter.

These young nations expect the necessary support from UNESCO to achieve this cultural transition, which will also weigh upon their political and economic development. In turn, their chosen direction could help further the universal quest for a real understanding between peoples and cultures.

René LEFORT

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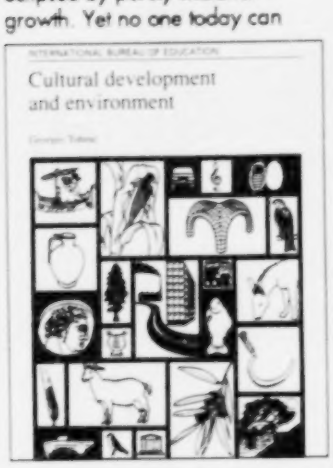
BOOKS

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT

In the field of development, the links between culture and environment have long been eclipsed by purely material growth. Yet no one today can



ignore the impact, often irreparably damaging, of economic development on the environment. After defining cultural development, Georges Tohmé, biologist, teacher and Director of the International Bureau of Education (IBE), shows how democracy and cultural training, by supporting craftwork and protecting the cultural heritage, can develop attitudes and awareness which together constitute an environmental ethic. Dr. Tohmé draws attention to the links which bring together not only the environment and cultural development; but also farming methods, work and technology, health, architecture and urbanization.

● ***Cultural Development and Environment**, by Georges Tohmé, UNESCO/IBE 1992, 120 pp., 90FF*

SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT AND RESOURCE USE: Equity, Environmental Integrity and Economic Efficiency.

Authored by Mike Young, a natural resource economist with the CSIRO Division of Wildlife and Ecology in Canberra, Australia, who has specialized in the interface between economics and ecology, Volume 9 in the MAB Book Series, identifies policy changes that will stimulate investment for a sustainable future. Recognizing three social goals - economic efficiency, ecological integrity and equity - formal constraints to policy formulation are stated. A set of guidelines or policy prescriptions, like those that come from one's doctor, are also developed and applied to the design of resource-right systems, macro-economic and micro-economic policies.

● ***Sustainable Investment and Resource Use:** Equity, Environmental Integrity and Economic Efficiency, by M.D. Young, MAB Book Series, Vol. 9, UNESCO/ Parthenon Publishing 1992, 175 pp, 380 FF.*

PERIODICALS

THE UNESCO COURIER

Universality: a European vision?

The quest for universality is a response to a long-standing human aspiration which may have begun with the sages, prophets and mystics who sought a single divine principle to release the sacred from confinement within purely local, tribal or national boundaries, thus creating a link between individual conscience and humanity as a whole. The philosophers of the Enlightenment gave another meaning to the quest when they removed its sacred dimension, regarding universality as inherent in human nature. How far has Europe served or - notably through the slave trade and colonialism - betrayed this vision? Now that all other societies have been confronted with it through European influence, how and at what cost can they incorporate it into their mental and cultural landscape? These are some of the questions raised in the July/August *Courier*, inspired by an international meeting organized by the European Parliament at Strasbourg in November 1991. This issue also includes an interview with Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SCIENCE JOURNAL

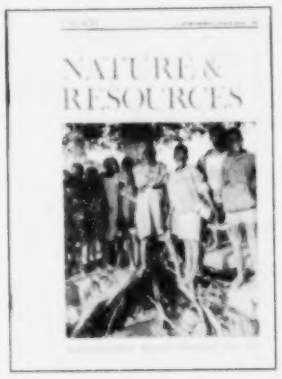
Thinking about Violence.

Violence, both visible and hidden, marks the 20th century and all previous centuries from which any trace remains. No region of the world, or culture, is free from it, although it tends to take on different forms and degrees of intensity. In this issue, contributions from philosophy, history, psychology and sociology - with provocative titles like "Modern society and innate violence," "Violence, powerlessness and individualism," or again "Violence, gender and social change" - help our understanding of some of the questions that arise when one reflects on the subject.

NATURE & RESOURCES

Sustainable development for all.

While the schoolchildren in Burkina Faso on the cover, like many other people around the world, seem blissfully unaware of the erosion of their natural capital, a situation underlying their very future, the specialist authors of articles in this issue (1/ 1992) remind readers that "sustainable development for all" requires innovative transition strategies in all parts of the world in order to reduce the degrading



effects of both over-consumption and under-consumption.

The magazine notably takes a look at some of the major topics addressed at last month's Earth Summit in Rio: ocean monitoring, freshwater resources, biological diversity or environmental education and the scientific research being carried out to respond better to the needs of the 21st century.

RECORDS

CHINA

Chuida Wind and Percussive Instrumental Ensembles

Chuida, literally "blow-strike," is one of the most ancient genres of the musical art form which combines percussive with melodic instruments (strings and winds).

It testified to the alertness of a tradition, open to new influences and yet heir to ancient principles which understood how to adopt numerous instruments imported via the Silk Route.

Rather than making an imaginery voyage from South to North, this recording follows a more Chinese-style graduation, from "refined" (XI) to "rough"

(cu). Starting in Quanzhou, Southern Fujian, where the Peartree Orchard opera troupe is renown for the diversity of percussion instruments and the subtlety of the *aizi* oboe's sonority.

It continues in Shanghai and ends with the art of drums and gongs from eastern Zhejiang (Bainigan), one of China's richest and least well-known.

● ***CHINA. Chuida Wind and Percussive Instrumental Ensembles.** Musics & Musicians of the World series, UNESCO/ Auvidis, 1992, Cassette 52FF, Compact 109FF.*

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WAR AND VIOLENCE ARE NOT GENETICALLY PROGRAMMED

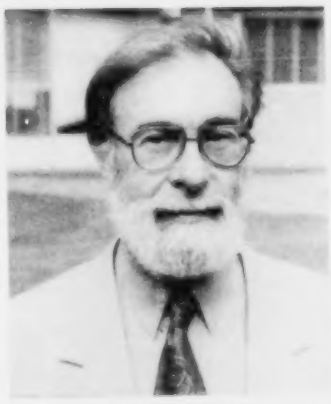
The letter's conclusions were cloaked by none of the usual formulas of civility. David Adam's letter concluded with one wish, one word: *"peace!"*. Because he is convinced that *"peace also begins in our minds"*. Yet for the last 30 years, this professor from Wesleyan university in Connecticut (U.S.A.) has been working on the exact opposite of the concept: violence and war.

More precisely, this Yale graduate in psychology and physiology is a specialist in research on the brain, on cerebral mechanisms of aggression. *"I believed falsely that if one could understand the brain mechanism of aggression, it would be simple to solve the social problems of aggression.*

"Error! We have come to the conclusion that our knowledge will not solve social problems because these are situated on another level . But at the same time we found that our research was misused by the mass media, in many cases in such a way as to make it appear that violence is inevitable because enscribed in the brain.

"I felt , therefore, that our responsibility was not only to do our research but also to make sure our work was properly presented to the public".

With 16 other specialists (psychologists, psychiatrists, sociologists, anthropologists, etc.) who met in 1986 under the auspices of the Spanish Commission for UNESCO, he is one of the authors of the Seville Manifesto, whose message can be summarised in a few words: *"Biology does not condemn humanity to war. Contrary to the myth that war is inherent in human nature, violence is not genetically programmed."*



DAVID ADAMS
(Photo UNESCO/Michel Claude).

But the most difficult part - popularising this scientific certainty - lay ahead.

David Adams started by setting up a "lobby" which rapidly rallied the support of the major international organizations specialised in the social sciences. He then spent a 4-month sabbatical from February to June 1992 as a consultant at UNESCO to help launch a project linking scientists and artists, including Alpha Blondy, Mikis Theodorakis, Yoko Ono, to send a *"message of hope""* which will *"develop a new culture of peace"*.

Their chosen medium: a poster which, in addition to extracts from the Manifesto, includes photos and lines from songs by popular singers.

Their target - young people. Because much needs to be done to change their attitudes. Whether from North or South, too many of them believe it is useless to work for peace since war and violence are inevitable whatever we do...

René LEFORT

NGOs ELECT THEIR FIRST NON-EUROPEAN PRESIDENT

Without proposing any major reforms, I would nonetheless like to help UNESCO reinforce its base at the local level," said Rao Chelikani (India), the new President of the biennial Conference of NGOs and of their Standing Committee.

"International organizations have vision and certain roots but only the NGOs have direct contact with individuals, the intellectual community and people with responsibilities in different walks of life."

The first non-European to hold the post, Chelikani was elected at the 23rd Conference of International Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) in consultative relationship with UNESCO, meeting at Headquarters from June 14 to 19.

President of the Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS) since 1978, he replaces Mme Odile Moreau, President of the International Federation of Catholic Universities.

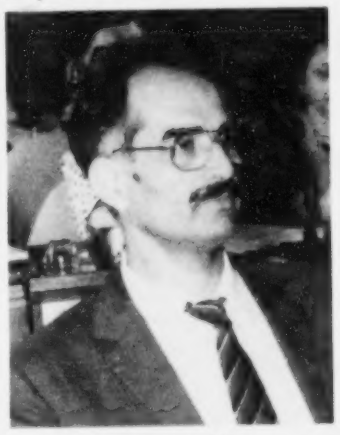
Besides serving, in previous years, as rapporteur and member of the NGO Standing Committee, Chelikani has been a particularly active participant in several of the six Joint UNESCO/NGO working groups, notably on "Education for Human Rights..." and "Science and Ethics" for which he prepared a scholarly paper entitled "Man and the Universe and in the Biospere According to Indian Philosophy".

Particularly concerned with youth, he is disturbed by their *"disenchantment - mainly with political parties."*

Yet his long experience with international voluntary service through CCIVS and its 110 member organizations, makes him confident.

"When young people help clean a polluted river, for instance, build a school in a developing country, or restore a cultural site, they lose their scepticism and their prejudices about one another, and regain hope."

"They are searching for cultural identity and purpose," he said, *"and if we offer them nothing, extremist groups will provide radical, ideological answers. We all, then, become victims of simplistic solutions."*



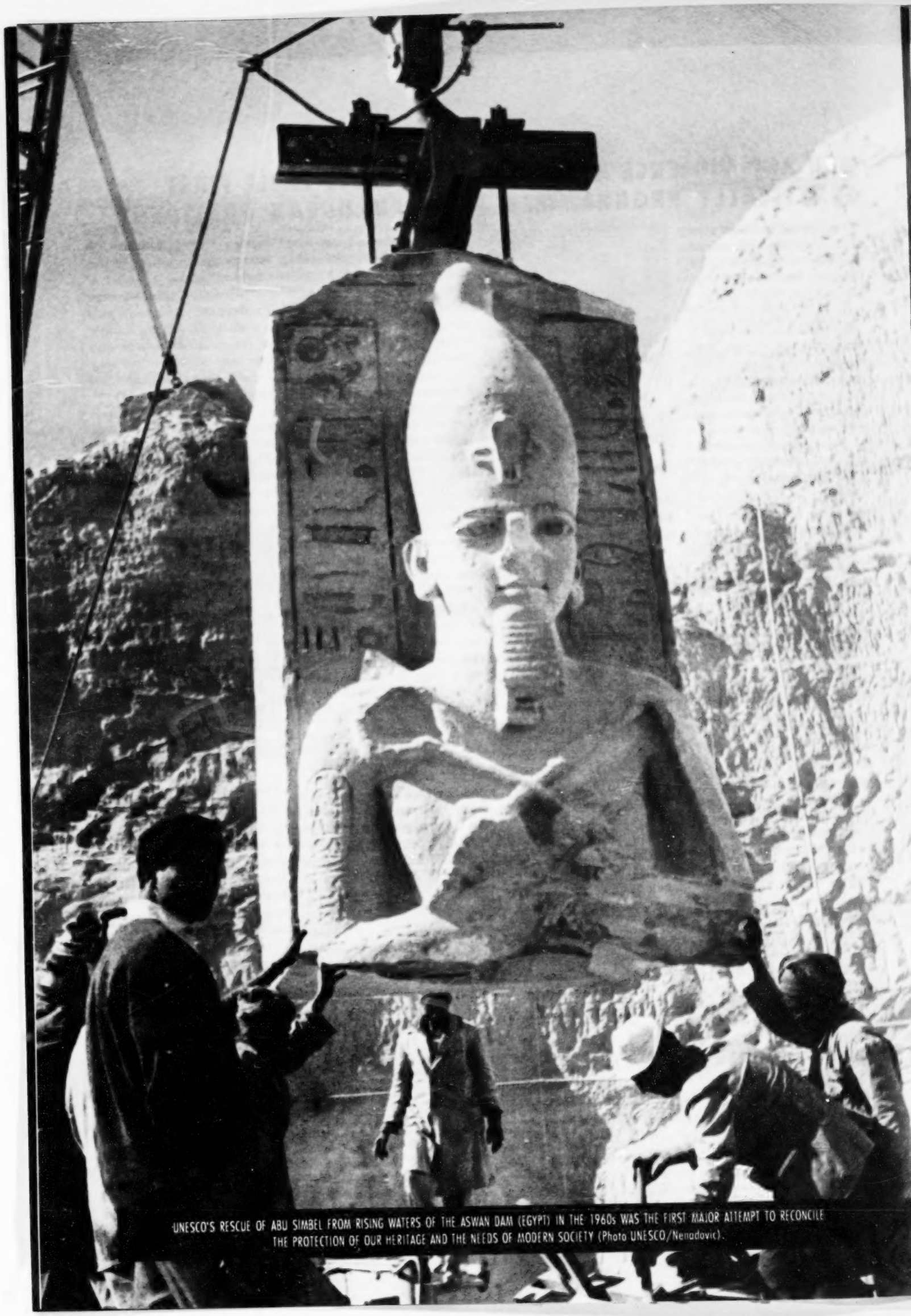
RAO CHELIKANI
(Photo UNESCO/Marcel Salvaro).

Chelikani, 52, a former inter-university ping-pong champion, chess player and jogger, nonetheless places the mind, body and heart on an equal footing, refusing to *"develop one at the cost of the others."*

All well and good! But for many friends, and colleagues who elected him by a vast majority and on the first ballot, Rao Chelikani's heart is by far the most equal of the three.

Betty WERTHER

● **Adult Literacy organizer, Catherine Stercq** (Belgium), received the first International Award for Literacy Research, administered by the Hamburg-based UNESCO Institute of Education (UIE). The $10,000 award, co-sponsored by the Canadian Ministry of Multiculturalism and Citizenship, and the Canada Post Corporation, recognizes outstanding research on adult literacy by an individual, group or institutions. Stercq's was on the "status of illiterates in the system of socio-vocational training". *"I feel honoured to win this award which will serve as a source of inspiration in our work."* she said. *"Illiteracy is not only prevalent in the Third World, but also exists in industrialized countries. A lot of research has been done. Now we must match it with practice,"* said Stercq after receiving her cheque from UNESCO Director-General, at Headquarters on June 24.



UNESCO'S RESCUE OF ABU SIMBEL FROM RISING WATERS OF THE ASWAN DAM (EGYPT) IN THE 1960s WAS THE FIRST MAJOR ATTEMPT TO RECONCILE THE PROTECTION OF OUR HERITAGE AND THE NEEDS OF MODERN SOCIETY (Photo UNESCO/Nenadovic).

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THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION : 20 YEARS LATER

UNESCO's World Heritage Convention this year celebrates its 20th birthday - and two decades of unrelenting effort to safeguard our natural and cultural treasures. Despite some impressive successes, the sites this international agreement aims to protect are facing a new set of challenges that will require all of ingenuity, care and vigilence we can muster.

This month's Focus looks at how the Convention has developed (see below) and some of the most pressing problems facing heritage sites, such as growing urban (p.10) and rural (p.11) populations, industrial pollution (p.14) and mass tourism (p.15). Finally, the debate over whether the Convention be given greater legal weight (p.16) to prevent such tragedies as the recent destruction in Dubrovnik, which raises the thorny issue of sovereignty and the question of just who "humanity's heritage" belongs to.

For more than a century now, since the impetus given by 19th century French author, Prosper Mérimée to the protection of ancient monuments and by the Yellowstone National Park to the protection of natural landscapes, the protection of great works of culture or areas of natural beauty has been a growing concern in many countries. However, we had to wait until the early 1960s for this protection to take on a really international dimension. This was chiefly thanks to UNESCO and its memorable campaign to safeguard the monuments of Nubia, threatened with submersion by the construction of the Aswan Dam. UNESCO's unquestioned success led to other international campaigns for other sites. It was also at this time that the wave of decolonization was being completed and multilateral mechanisms offering technical support to the newly independent nations were being established. Above all it was the period in which tourism and international travel began to take off. The conjunction of these factors led to the idea of a world convention which, under the auspices of UNESCO, would lay the foundations for real mutual assistance for the protection of cultural monuments and sites regarded as of "universal interest".

At around about the same time, another idea took shape, launched in the United States and quickly taken up by what is now the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This was the idea of a world heritage "trust" for the most spectacular natural landscapes and major historical sites. The trust involved the establishment of a legal instrument and a fund in order to stimulate international cooperation in the identification and safeguarding of these landscapes and sites for the world community as a whole. The defenders of this idea urged that nature be given the same attention and weight as culture.

LINKING CULTURE AND NATURE

We were thus faced with two parallel movements and the risk of two partly overlapping conventions in the cultural field. This danger was brought to light by the preparatory work for the United Nations Conference on the Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972, and was overcome by an agreement to draft a single text for adoption by UNESCO's General Conference in the same year. This unforeseen but highly desirable compromise had the very important consequence that cultural and natural property was to be given equal treatment under this original Convention.

The World Heritage Convention is indeed original and profoundly innovative in more ways than one. Firstly, it states that parts of the cultural or natural heritage are of outstanding interest and therefore need to be preserved for humanity as a whole. It then establishes the criteria and procedures for the inclusion on a single World Heritage List of the property constituting the cultural and natural heritage. This list today boasts 260 cultural, 84 natural and 14 mixed sites in 81 countries. Secondly, the Convention takes the view that, since the listed property constitues a world heritage, responsibility for its protection falls not only to the countries to which it "belongs", but also to the international community whose duty it is to help these countries in case of need. Help is provided at their request, thus showing full regard for their sovereignty, and a joint fund set up by the Convention, the World Heritage Fund, makes its possible to meet these requests in part. Lastly, the most unexpected feature of the Convention is probably the fact that it exerts its authority over both cultural and natural property, whose protection in most countries is the responsibility of different ministries.

Even today, many people are astonished to find on the same list things as dissimilar as the Taj Mahal and the Galapagos Islands or the centre of Rome and Mount Kilimanjaro! Yet it is precisely because they have been kept separate that both culture and nature are today in serious danger and this formal link between them may perhaps reflect, better than any other

symbol, the new alliance needed between these two pillars of humanity's future, which exists in reality only through their union.

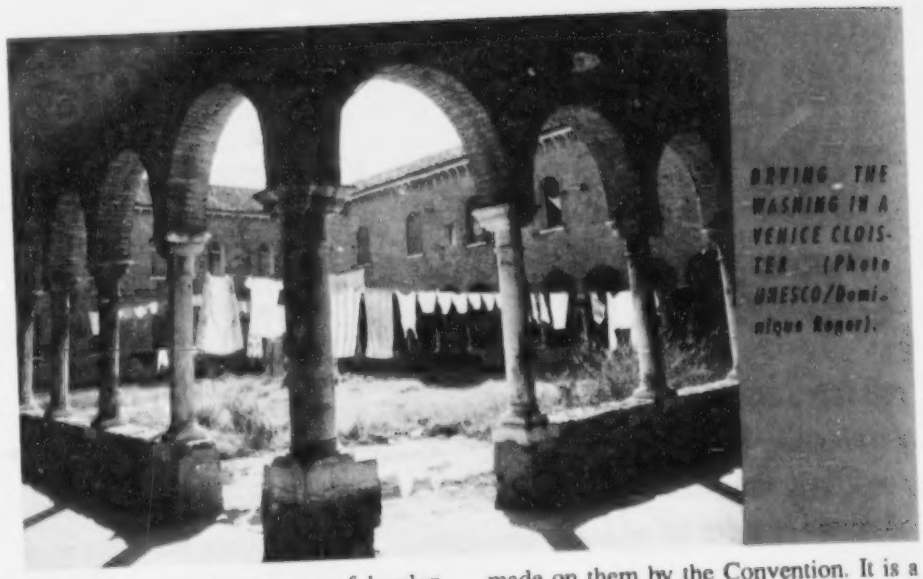
The 20th anniversary of the Convention provides the occasion for an assessment and for an examination of conscience by all those involved in its implementation. This evaluation, and the evolution of the international situation since the birth of the Convention will undoubtedly influence its future directions. Many questions arise, in fact, for which experience might suggest answers. Do we have, for instance, objective criteria for estimating the outstanding and universal value of a monument or national park? How many sites should be listed, given that the resources available for their protection under the Convention will never be unlimited? What is the real significance of the world list? Is it a catalogue of sites that tourists feel they ought to visit or is it a list of sites in need of active protection? Is there not a danger that, in drawing attention to a few prestige sites, we are encouraging people not to maintain all the others? What pratical benefits do those responsible for the protection of a site get from its inclusion on the list if the World Heritage Fund has only meagre resources, as is still the case? How can those resources be increased, since the Convention simply provided for a virtually fixed and very modest sum, while new sites are added each year?

Must we strike from the list those monuments or sites which, through negligence or lack of interest, have so deteriorated that they have lost what it was that made them "outstanding"? How far can the Convention force states parties to protect sites on the list? How are the pressures of development and population growth to be resisted in the case of historic city centres? Is it possible to prohibit mining or drilling for oil in a national park in a poor country, or to protect a landscape if it has fertile soil underneath? In short, how can economic and political forces be brought to accept that the spiritual survival of mankind depends on safeguarding our many and varied cultural and natural roots?

To all these questions, and to a few others, practical answers are found every day as the Convention is applied. In spite of what the sceptics thought would happen, the World Heritage Convention is working. Some 123 countries are party to the Convention and are continuing to propose the inclusion of new sites. Though they are often tempted to look to the advantages of being listed rather than to the obligations, all of them are striving to follow the recommendations and meet the demands made on them by the Convention. It is a Convention that is well and truly alive and contributing effectively to the protection and enhancement of our environment - both cultural and natural - at a time when concern for the environment is stronger than ever before. It is a Convention that shows us that the world is united and interdependent in the safeguarding of its diversity. It is, finally, a Convention that deserves considerably increased resources for action and a very special place at UNESCO since it constitutes one of the Organization's grandest designs.

Michel BATISSE

Michel Batisse, former Assistant Director-General of UNESCO for Science and today an adviser on environmental questions, was directly involved in the preparation and implementation of the Convention.



DRYING THE WASHING IN A VENICE CLOISTER (Photo UNESCO/Dominique Roger).

THE WORLD HERITAGE CENTRE

To strengthen its work in this domain, UNESCO has established the World Heritage Centre. The main role of the Centre, which is under the direct authority of the Director-General, is to carry out, rapidly and efficiently, activities related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, and more specifically to :

. encourage states which are not yet party to the Convention to join;
. nominate the inscription of sites of outstanding and universal value to the World Heritage List;
. support the implementation of the Convention in States Parties;
. assist States in setting up institutions and training competent staff for the management, protection and restoration of cultural and natural heritage;
. facilitate project preparation for conservation operations and provide services for their implementation;
. mobilize extrabudgetary funds for this purpose;
. monitor the state of conservation of sites already inscribed on the List;
. respond promptly to emergency situations at endangered sites in cases of armed conflict and natural or man-made disasters;
. ensure the broadest possible promotion of UNESCO's work in the field of cultural and natural heritage to the public and specialized audiences.

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"SOME PEOPLE COLLECT STAMPS ..."

Always on the move, usually in the world's most remote corners, Jim Thorsell, guardian of our natural heritage, has made his passion his profession

A lot of people say that I have the best job in the world... and I guess I wouldn't deny that."

Seated in his small office in Gland (Switzerland), Jim Thorsell does not give the impression of having *"the best job in the world"*. But looks can be deceiving. Casually dressed, softly spoken and articulate, his whole demeanour belies the life he actually leads.

For the past eight years he has been with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Commission on Natural Parks and Protected Areas. He is also a Senior Advisor on Natural Heritage an devotes most of his time to the role of chief scientific advisor to the World Heritage Committee. The inclusion of a natural site on the World Heritage List is thus based to a certain point on his recommendations.

Born near Banff, Alberta (Canada), *"about 50 years ago"*, Thorsell grew up in the great outdoors - a background that no doubt influenced his choice of career. *"I started out as a Ranger Naturalist for Parks Canada in 1962"* he explains *"and since then I've never looked back."* After gaining his Ph.D. (an Interdisciplinary Doctorate Programme in Resource Sciences with emphasis on resource planning and park management) in 1971, Thorsell spent his time either as a lecturer or advisor on parks and natural sites from Canada to Tanzania before joining the IUCN in 1984.

SKIS OR SCUBA

His job is also his passion. *"Some people collect stamps, others collect old cars. I collect parks"* he says. *"In just over 30 years I've been to almost 400 national parks in the farthest reaches of the Earth, except Antarctica, and that is coming. In fact, I have probably visited more national parks than most people. Within the confines of my job, I've evaluated 96 World Heritage nominations in eight years, 60 of which have been inscribed on the World Heritage List (which includes 91 natural sites)."*

Travelling takes up half of Thorsell's time and involves somewhat more than a plane with a taxi to the hotel. He is often obliged to travel by horse or on foot, by canoe or on skis, in scuba gear, or any combination thereof. *"Many sites are in far-flung, difficult to reach corners of the earth,"* he explains. *"It took almost a month to get in and out of the Manu National Park at the headwaters of the Amazon - driving one day, spending another four days on horseback and four or five days in a river-boat, not to mention a certain distance covered on foot. Next month I'll be visiting Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska which entails six days in a rubber raft on a wild river - a first for me on a World Heritage evaluation."*

ON THE CARP'S BACK AT HUANGSHAN, CHINA
(Photo Chinese National Commission for UNESCO)

Despite the transportation problems, Thorsell believes firmly in on-site inspection. *"In this way I have contact with the local people involved and they can see that the World Heritage Convention is not just a bureaucratic exercise and that other countries are equal partners in the whole heritage effort. The World Heritage List is the Nobel Prize or the Hall of Fame of national parks. We want to ensure that only the very best and universally outstanding parks and reserves get on this List. We can't afford to make mistakes, so criteria for inclusion have been tightened up in the past six years."*

Thorsell makes evaluations of proposed sites and then presents his recommendations to the World Heritage Committee, which makes the final decision on their inclusion on the List. This year he has 15 sites to evaluate from Oceanic islands near Antarctica to to Australian Wetlands and five virtually unknown sites in China.

THE RAVAGES OF WAR

One area of particular concern to this intrepid Canadian is the threat to the world's natural treasure troves posed by war and civil disturbances. *"People relate much more to old buildings, which can be rebuilt (as is hoped will happen with Dubrovnik), than to travertine terraces (fragile limestone formations) or lakes and forests, which have taken eons to create and can never be replaced,"* he points out. He finds it difficult to see how sites endangered by internal strife can be saved. In 1985, for example, the Simien National Park in Ethiopia was overrun in an outburst of the civil violence that has afflicted the country for more than a decade. *"The endangered Walia ibex population has certainly suffered and all park facilities have been reported destroyed...*

"In Mozambique and Angola the former magnificent park systems have been totally destroyed and many are littered with land mines that will make their restoration a long and dangerous process."

The World Heritage in Danger list includes one natural and eight cultural sites. This special list serves to sound an international alert, but can achieve little else. As prestigious as the World Heritage List may be, it can only go so far.

Despite such setbacks, Thorsell remains fiercely dedicated to his job. Even his hobbies and vacations are closely related to his work. A week of horseback riding in the wilds of Alberta, or canoeing in the Arctic are his idea of a great holiday.

"My job is very demanding and it goes largely unrecognized, but I don't mind," he smiles. *"By identifying world heritage and trying to ensure that it gets looked after, we are giving a chance for future generations to enjoy the planet's splendour."* Who could ask for more?

Lee WALDRON
Geneva

BURSTING AT THE SEAMS

Can old cities cope with growing and modernizing populations? The case of Quito

This year's national holiday and anniversary of the Battle of Pichincha, celebrated on May 24, was the occasion for much rejoicing in the historic centre of Ecuador's capital, Quito. Its Plaza Grande (Parque de la Independencia) was re-opened to the public after being closed for more than a year for alterations. It is the focal point of the history of Quito, which itself has been a human settlement for more than 10,000 years. New life had returned to this unique site nestling in the hills some 3,000 metres above sea level, with its architecture dating back to the first Spanish settlement in 1534.

In 1978, Quito, and specifically its sprawling historic centre (927.5 hectares) with its vestiges of the pre-Columbian, colonial and Republican periods, was declared part of the world's cultural heritage by UNESCO. Its monuments, churches, monasteries, collections, art treasures and iconography constitute a wealth of different styles and forms of artistic expression in a microcosm of unusual sociological diversity.

However, urban development in and around the city has sparked a range of problems which have made living conditions there increasingly difficult, and the conservation of its cultural wealth a constant struggle. The population, for example, has increased from 100,000 in 1939 to over a million today, with some 300,000 inhabitants in the city centre.

PEDESTRIANS, CARS AND STREET VENDORS

Anyone arriving by air will have first-hand experience of Quito's urban problems and will be surprised (and somewhat anxious) to see the plane skimming the rooftops of the northern suburbs as it comes in to land at the airport practically in the middle of a congested, polluted, city teeming with pedestrians, road traffic and street vendors.

The walls of the city's historic buildings are covered with layers of greasy, acidic smog emanating from the increasing number of vehicles there. The ancient streets, repositaries of our world heritage, have become depots for piles of rotting household garbage. Unfortunately, a way has not yet been found to harmonize conservation with the necessities of economic development and modernization.

The most serious response to date has come from the city council's Planning Department. Its Director, Fernando Carrión, has devoted years of research and study to a project which seeks to define an urban and social policy aimed at reducing economic and social disparities and establishing a new municipality on more representative social and territorial foundations.

"What we want", he says, *"is a new city which respects the historic past while setting out in the present to build a socially balanced future. A future which will enable people to live a life of dignity, justice and creativity."*

The most salient feature of this policy is the Quito City Plan, promoted by the Mayor, Rodrigo Paz. The aim is to provide

THE ELEGANCE OF OLD QUITO CONTRASTS STARKLY WITH THE MUSHROOMING SLUMS OF ITS OUTSKIRTS (Photo UNESCO/G. Tonldi).

housing for some 70,000 inhabitants in the southern part of the city, and decentralize administrative offices. This should relieve some of the population pressure as well as the terrible traffic congestion.

Awareness of the need to preserve the historic centre became particularly acute in the wake of the 1987 earthquake, which highlighted critical shortcomings in the capacity for restoration, reconstruction, rehabilitation and safeguarding operations and showed that what is needed is a realistic policy to strengthen existing municipal initiatives. This will entail greater State participation, in order to reinforce and revitalize the institutions which regulate and supervise operations involving cultural property.

BROADER PARTICIPATION

What is urgently needed, therefore, is participation by (and pressure from) broader sectors of society, including the inhabitants of the historic centre themselves, and especially the throng of vendors plying their trade on every corner, square and street, the stresses and strains and the turmoil of their daily existence contrasting starkly with the abiding tranquillity of the age-old buildings. Gonzalo de la Cruz, representative of the itinerant sellers has already pledged their support as *"custodians of our heritage, defenders of the historic site which also belongs to us"*.

A major contribution was made by the seminar 'Communication for a Conservation Culture to Save Quito's Heritage', organized by the Herbert Read Centre for Art Education, under the auspices of UNESCO, CIESPAL and Fundación Natura, at the end of March.

The participants - architects, urban planners, economists, sociologists and engineers from Latin America and the Caribbean, the U.S.A. and Europe - made a meticulous, in-depth review of advances in the conservation-preservation field over the past 25 years.

The meeting prompted the representatives of the city's communication media to engage in an in-depth study of ways of opening up permanent areas which would also preserve the non-physical heritage. This covers that heritage which is not merely embodied in a nostalgic view of the past but is deeply rooted in folk memory, in myth and legend and in the people of Quito; those who have made it what it is - a crossroad *"where the sun looks straight at its reflection"* - a place whose history reaches back to pre-Columbian times.

Ulises ESTRELLA
Quito

THE PRICE OF A FOREST

Authorities in Côte d'Ivoire juggle between saving a forest and protecting the livelihood of the rural population

The last large remaining tract of primary forest in West Africa, the Taï National Park in the Côte d'Ivoire, is in serious danger. Cocoa planters, poachers and gold-diggers, who depend on the park's resources for their livelihood, are wreaking havoc on its flora and fauna, presenting authorities with a major dilemma.

Some 700 kilometres west of Abidjan towards the Liberian frontier, the park covers about 340,000 hectares surrounded by a buffer zone. It was classed as a UNESCO biosphere reserve in 1978 and placed on the World Heritage List in 1982.

Anxious to increase production, the government, in 1965, encouraged cultivators to settle the area. Seven years later, however, they classed it as a national park and tried to turn the new settlers out, a decision the peasants found difficult to understand and resisted. In 1988 the army was sent in to force them out, pushing the farmers into action.

They immediately sent delegations to Abidjan to complain to President Félix Houphouet-Boigny, like them a Baule, and in addition the son of a planter and a planter himself. This led to a compromise that allowed the peasants to keep their farms in the buffer zone provided they lived elsewhere and stopped clearing the land. They had to take steps to move completely out of the zone by the end of 1991 at the latest.

"TIME HAS RUN OUT"

The first part of the agreement has been more or less complied with, although, as Benoît Konan, who settled there 17 years ago, explained, it is *"very difficult to look after your crops when you live several kilometres away"*. The evacuation itself, though, has hardly started. Park Director, Jean-Marie Hala, regularly makes the rounds to explain to planters that *"time has run out"* and *"they must expect to be turned out any day"*.

To the east, the situation is even more sensitive. There the plantations are larger and more modern. The planters are rich and politically influential in a country that earns the greater part of its export revenue from cocoa and coffee. In other words, the defenders of the forest, before taking action against these people, will have to make sure that the necessary "precautions" have been taken back in Abidjan.

In any case, negotiations will be difficult. As the Director of the Taï National Park observed, *"the State has no more forest to offer"* elsewhere *"thus, the only solution is compensation"*.

SOWING RICE IN THE "PROTECTED" TAI FOREST (Photo Anouka De Rouw).

The Government, however, does not have the means to do this, and would also have a hard time explaining to a population that has had to swallow the message of austerity, that it was *"paying to keep trees"*. Neither are there any guarantees that money alone would solve the problem. *"I was born a planter, son of a planter. I can't do anything else. What could I do with money if I can't work any more"*, asked Jean Kouadio, from the village of Ponan.

The end result of the confusion and indecision is that the planter, convinced he will have to leave in the end, couldn't care less about the environment. He no longer defends 'his' land, and, on occasions even gives a hand to poachers - who are the Park's second affliction. *"You can walk for a whole day without coming across a colony of monkeys"*, Félix Toussogba, deputy director of the Park, remarks bitterly. Antelopes, too, are becoming rare.

The civil war in neighbouring Liberia, and the string of refugees since 1990, has not eased matters. Completely destitute but often well-armed, the refugees have chosen the Park as their favourite place to find food. To take action against them would raise serious humanitarian problems, which, here again, could not be justified in the eyes of the population simply by the need to *"save trees"*.

ONE RANGER FOR 8000 HECTARES

Even if the Park authorities wanted to drive them out, they do not have the means to do so. There are only 61 rangers for surveillance duties, i.e. one for every 8,000 hectares.

The third bane of the forest are the gold-diggers, whose numbers are rapidly expanding. Convinced that the forest is a gold mine, they dig long tunnels into the its sub-soil, destroying the forest's fragile root system and threatening the existence of several plant species unique to Taï.

This is one of the reasons why UNESCO considers the forest an inestimable reserve for humanity. Several years ago it asked the Director of the Institut d'Ecologie Tropicale (IET) in Abidjan, Mr Sangaré Yaya, to draw up a project to save Taï. The planned budget amounts to nearly $3 million. For Mr Yaya, the only way to ensure that the Park is protected as well as possible is to involve the local people by *"taking account of their concerns about development"*. He is at present exploring two possibilities.

The first is to allow the planters who have settled in the buffer zone to remain there on condition that they protect the Park.

The second is to turn them out, but provide them with re-training, perhaps in the area of eco-tourism. In his view, both approaches are feasible on the one condition *"that the local people understand the importance of safeguarding the Park and therefore accept the measures taken to achieve this, not because they are forced to, but because it is in their own interest"*.

Christophe KOFFI
Abidjan

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SITES: FROM ONE EXTREME TO THE OTHER

It is impossible to make an "objective" selection of the most beautiful or the most important sites on World Heritage List. We, therefore, offer below a selection of extremes.

THE DEEPEST

THE OLDEST

THE MOST EXTENSIVE

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THE HIGHEST

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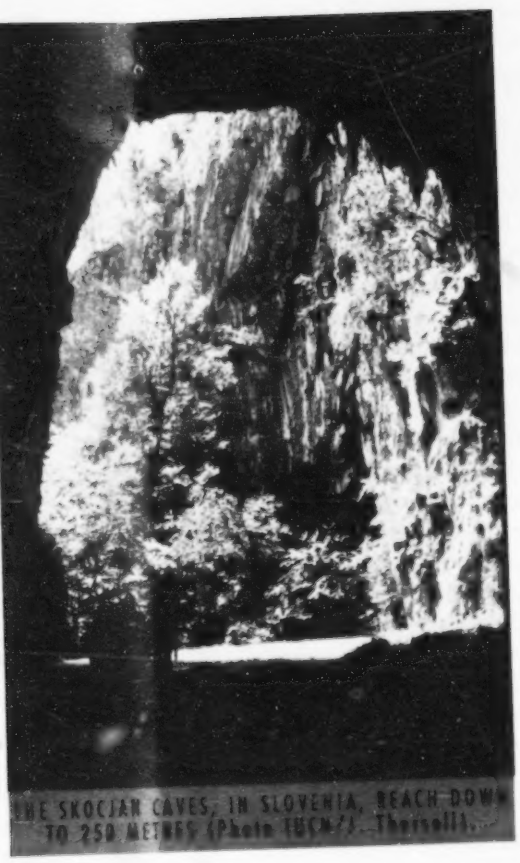


HE SKOCJAN CAVES, IN SLOVENIA, REACH DOWN TO 250 METRES (Photo IUCN/J. Thorsell).

SAGARMATHA NATIONAL PARK, IN NEPAL, WHERE THE SUMMIT OF EVEREST RISES TO 8,882 METERS (Photo UNESCO/G. Vireo).

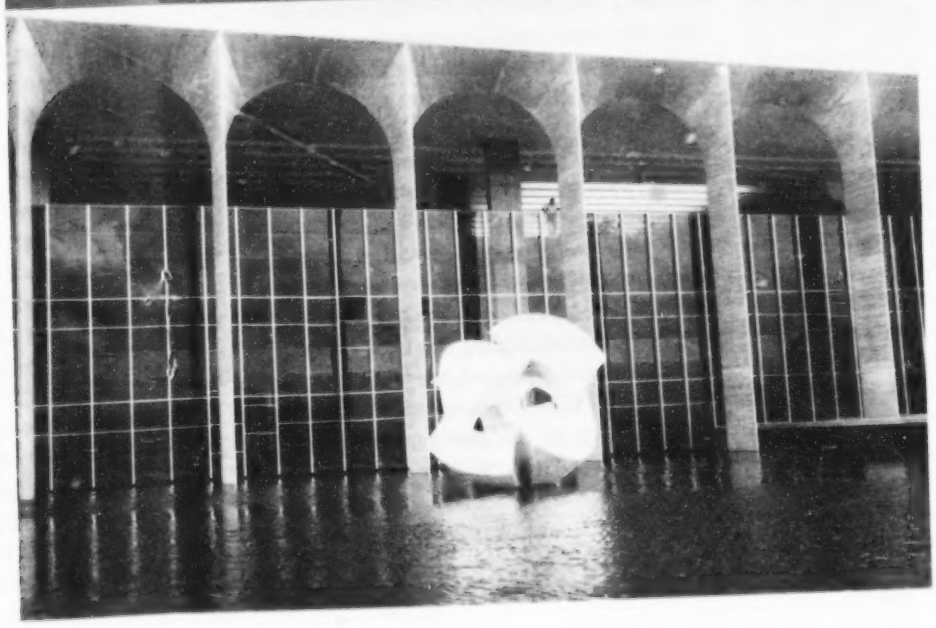
13

THE SMALLEST

THE VALLÉE DE MAI NATURE RESERVE, IN THE SEYCHELLES, COVERS 19 HECTARES (Photo UNESCO/J. Palmyre).

THE MOST MODERN

BRASILIA, CAPITAL OF BRAZIL, THE FIRST CITY IN THE WORLD WHOSE ARCHITECTURE DRAWS ON THE PRINCIPLES OF ABSTRACT ART (Photo UNESCO/O. Roger).



THE DANUBE BLUES

The river that once inspired musicians and poets is today choking under an onslaught of industrial pollution

In the spring of this year, televised images of fish floating belly up in the Seine were broadcast around the world. At the same time, but in near-complete indifference, a similar "ecological epidemic" struck the Danube Delta. *"It's difficult to say, for the time being, what the cause of this tragedy is,"* said Professor Marian-Traian Gomoiu, Director of the Danube Delta Reserve, at the time. *"In general, this river's water is continually threatened by industrialization, agricultural chemical products, navigation, excessive fishing, hydrotechnical works, oil spills, and garbage. But the worst thing is, at whatever point on the Danube this happens, it can have consequences all the way to the river's mouth."*

The Danube basin spreads over 805,300 square kilometers. The 215 cubic kilometers of water that annually flow into the Black Sea go through zones where pollution leads to water hypoxia (decrease in oxygen content) or anoxia (total oxygen deprivation). The water also contains copper, ammonia, and aluminum particles, as well as radioactive elements up to three times more than allowable levels. The same excess can be found in heavy-metal concentration (chrome, nickel, etc.) or in alkaline levels. The chief culprits are the industrial companies lining the river's Romanian banks. And Bucharest authorities lack even the minimal technology to measure the resulting pollution with precision.

Yet, the Danube Delta is today thrice protected: it is on UNESCO's World Heritage List; since 1991, it also belongs to MAB's (Man and Biosphere programme) international network of Biosphere Reserves; and finally, this year Romania signed the International Wetlands Convention (Ramsar Convention) which aims particularly at protecting aquatic birds. Indeed, it must be said that these 4,152 square kilometers of Delta, 3,446 of which are within Romania's boundaries, are home to an exceptionally rich and diverse biology and a no less remarkable landscape.

"The ecological philosophy of the reserve administration," says Professor Gomoiu, *"is essentially to preserve and protect the Delta ecosystems, in perfect harmony with traditional economic activities, and thus providing social protection for the locals."* In concrete terms, this means *"first a broad research programme, for the Delta remains, for the most part, terra incognita; then enacting rules for authorized activities within the reserve, such as agriculture, rush harvesting, tourism, fishing, and fish farming."*

The right balance must be struck between enhancing this particular environment and protecting it, whilst pursuing three priority objectives: preservation, research, and a restructuration of economic activities. For example, the Delta has recently become an attractive area for hunters (hunting in the Delta used to be forbidden under the old regime): the strategic plan under consideration will thus reduce the area where hunting is permitted to 26% of the reserve, limit the number and length of hunting parties, and shorten the hunting season.

HARMONIOUS TOURISM

Tourism, for its part, can be at the same time the best and worst activity. It could become the most powerful economic force for a favorable Delta evolution. Today, however, it is a real assault on the ecosystem, essentially because of its lack of organization, and concentration on small specific reserve areas for short, intense periods. The strategic plan calls for better-organized tourism, diversified (open to the many Delta ecological systems), harmoniously spread in time and space.

Beyond that, the reserve's ecological reconstruction is urgent. Reserve managers want a return to the original ecosystem, which has been seriously altered by the various economic and particularly, heavy industrial activities, and a return to ways of thinking adapted to a Delta milieu. The cornerstone of this reconstruction is the retrieval of 2,800 square kilometers of degraded, diked areas and their integration in to the Delta system of small lakes, meadows and pastures, forests and agrosystems.

But such a renaissance assumes that profound evaluations are made to help pick the best biological and economic options, and that good balance is reached among all parts of this milieu. It also assumes that the water flowing through the Delta does not destroy such efforts: measures must be taken to reduce pollution all along the Danube's banks across half of Europe. It further assumes beneficial relationships between local populations, economic forces, the Romanian parliament (which is expected to announce legal decrees relative to the Reserve's status and environmental protection in the near future), and, of course, research institutions and international organizations. *"The Danube's health is the responsibility of all European nations,"* says Professor Gomoiu, *"but cooperation in this field is unfortunately, still far from satisfactory."*

Cornelius VLAD/Bucharest

THE WAY TO THE FUTURE ?

World Heritage sites can be big tourist drawcards - provided they are not destroyed in the process

Sea, sex and sun holidays are on the way out. Crowded, polluted beaches, AIDS and the threat of skin cancer are pushing tourists to seek exotic, adventurous vacations elsewhere. The answer, according to many, is cultural tourism. To just as many others though, the idea is an anathema; a trend that will lay waste to the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Already such sites as the Ming Tombs in China, the Lascaux Caves in France and Stonehenge in the United Kingdom, have been closed off to the public because of the danger posed by massive numbers of tourists. In the Galapagos Islands in Ecuador increasing numbers of tourists are threatening vegetation and wildlife, while their powerboats are polluting surrounding waters.

The lure of easy and plentiful tourist dollars is difficult to resist for many countries. Their most frequent reaction is to construct hotels, roads and other facilities to keep increasing numbers of holidaymakers coming in. The consequences on the site that attracts these vistors in the first place have only recently started attracting the attention of national authorities.

CONTROLLING THE NUMBERS

Sri Lanka's Tourist Board, for instance, wants to bring in one million tourists a year - up from the present 400,000 - using the spectacular Buddhist complex of cities and monuments known as the Cultural Triangle as a major drawcard. However, Ashley de Vos, conservation director and author of the new 10-year tourist master plan being drawn up for the government, believes any more than 700,000 people annually *"would threaten the island's heritage and charm"*. Indonesia's Borobodur step pyramid is now pulling two million visitors annually, up from 300,000 in 1982. Hundreds of tourist buses arrive daily, choking access routes and aggravating pollution problems on the site. The air conditioning in these buses requires that they be left idling while waiting for their load of tourists, and their thick exhaust fumes had begun to seriously damage the carefully restored stones of the pyramid. The vehicles are now kept at a distance by a buffer zone around the site.

"It's hard to control," admitted Thai lawyer and participant at a recent UNESCO workshop on the subject, Dr. Adul Wichiencharoen. *"you really can't strike a balance between numbers. They try to control numbers by imposing higher prices, but that method is controversial."*

Does this mean that heritage sites should be kept under lock and key? That the growing hordes of holidaymakers should be kept at bay?

"No," says Abdel Kader Brahim Errahmani, head of PATRICOM, an experimental action group established by UNESCO to study the development of heritage sites. *"In the first case, an attitude of defensive conservation that would deprive local populations of their only source of income is unrealistic, and does not necessarily guarantee the site's protection."*

"We need new ideas and concepts that reconcile tourism and conservation with the need for sustainable development; a development that protects biodiversity, cultural identities, and at the same time the livelihoods of local people."

Buffer zones, advance reservations, a change in school curricula so that busloads of students do not arrive on busy days, inner reserves which are off limits to tourists and height regulations for hotels are some of the ideas being tried with varying success at sites around the world.

"It is also important to give tourists a sense of awareness and involvement about the site they are visiting," says Brahim Errahmani.

The Government of Belize and a British non-profit organization, Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) which has been charged with drawing up a management plan for the Belize Barrier Reef, use paying volunteer divers who pass their annual holidays surveying the flora and fauna there. *"These people don't just lie on a beach all day, they work very hard,"* says CCC Director Jonathon Ridley.

At Borobudur, tourists take batik courses and participate in handicraft workshops in pottery or bamboo work, as an introduction to Indonesia's culture and traditions, while visitors to Australia's Kakadu National Park take part in courses on "bush food" and survival in the outback.

This "contact" is imperative, stressed the specialists at the UNESCO meeting. *"Heritage is now a product for consumption,"* said Malaysian delegate Adi Taha *"and if it is consumed by someone who doesn't understand the culture it will have a negative impact."*

This may well be the case, and a direction for the future. However, as renowned Indonesian archaeologist, Soekomono, insists "it is also of no less importance to avoid turning the chandi (religious monument or sacred space) into a recreation area. In a way, a chandi area should be protected from any kind of pollution in any form and in any aspect."

S. W.

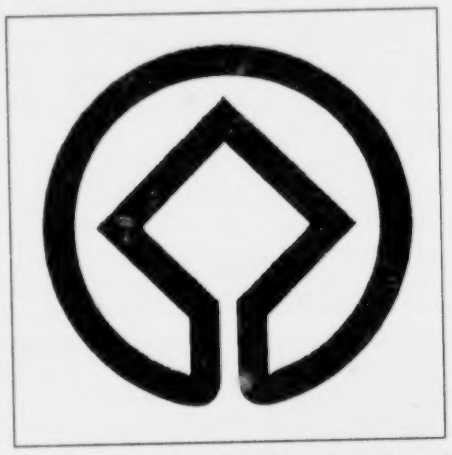
THE CONVENTION AGAINST THE CANNONS

Is the Convention out-of-date? How can it be strengthened without treading on toes?

Monuments are blown up in civil conflicts, there are no funds for conservation work and no policy guidelines for governments or professional bodies. We think it's time that the World Heritage Convention be brought up to date with international developments." For Italy's ambassador to UNESCO, Michaelangelo Jacobucci, the Convention, as it stands, does not have the weight it needs to effectively protect cultural and natural heritage. At the Organization's recent Executive Board meeting, the Italian delegation opened debate on this thorny issue, initially suggesting that inclusion on the World Heritage List *"should underline the fact that the State has renounced its exclusive hold on the site and agrees to share responsibility for it with the international community"*. The Ambassador later admitted that this formulation was deliberately *"provocative"*, but aimed at shaking the Board into action. However, even the watered down version, which suggested the establishment of a group of experts to review the Convention, drew a polite but unshakable refusal from Board Members, who clearly saw it as a threat to state sovereignty.

The Convention's limits were thrown into the spotlight by the terrible bombing of Dubrovnik. The concern was such that UNESCO's last General Conference called upon the Director-General to look at ways of reinforcing the Organization's action in this domain. However, as pointed out by Dr. Lyndel Prott, UNESCO's legal expert on cultural property, the issue is extremely complex and attempts to revise the Convention's text *"may well bring this hard won compromise undone"*.

"What changes to the text could possibly stop people shooting at Dubrovnik or any other site in the case of civil strife? It has been suggested that the destruction of cultural property could be made a war crime, but such a provision already exists in the protocols of the Geneva Convention and there has never been any attempt to prosecute. There also exists an emblem (see above) that could be used to mark sites, but this may well be counter-productive in the case of ethnic strife where one of the parties is bent on destroying evidence of the opponent's cultural identity."



One possibility, suggests Dr. Prott, would be to amend the conditions for the inscription on the World Heritage List, to include a requirement that a nominating state be party to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (Hague Convention) and nominate the site concerned for its Register of Special Protection. *"This would have the advantage of making states think carefully about their obligations in peace and war."*

National legislations could also be revised to see whether they conform with the Convention and the World Heritage Committee's requirements. *"And of course, we could do a lot more for sites if we had more money. The introduction of an efficient monitoring system, for example, could also go a long way to improving the situation"*.

Neither should it be forgotten that the Convention has already notched up numerous successes. In Australia, for example, the Federal Government blocked attempts by the Tasmanian State Government in the early 80s to build a major hydro-electric dam in the magnificent Franklin River wilderness area, using its obligations under the Convention as the basis of its legal argument. On another occasion, the Convention was used to persuade Egyptian authorities not to build a holiday village next to the pyramids. *"The present Convention basically serves us well,"* says Dr. Prott. Making it work more efficiently is a question of political will and resources.

Sue WILLIAMS

TO FIND OUT MORE ...

THE WORLD HERITAGE: a fold out brochure, illustrated with a selection of magnificent colour photos, explaining how the World Heritage Convention and List work, and incorporating a complete list of the 358 sites and a world map showing their locations.

TEMPLES AND TOMBS OF ANCIENT NUBIA - THE INTERNATIONAL RESCUE CAMPAIGN AT ABU SIMBEL, PHILAE AND OTHER SITES: edited by Torgny Säve-Soderbergh. A comprehensive and lavishly illustrated account of this remarkable rescue operation. Thames and Hudson and UNESCO, 256 pp. 1987.

VENICE RESTORED 1966-1986: the story of the international campaign led by UNESCO to save Venice, in a 236-page, beautifully illustrated and well researched publication. Electa, Milan, 1991.

SANA'A: by Michael Barry Lane presents the 24 projects prepared under UNESCO's safeguarding campaign, and reviews work already done. UNESCO/UNDP, 80 pp.

BOROBUDUR - THE CONQUEST OF TIME: an illustrated brochure on the restoration work undertaken to protect Borobudur in Indonesia, including a brief history of the monument and its rediscovery. UNESCO, 1983.

THE CHALLENGE OF OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE. WHY PRESERVE THE PAST? Edited by Yudhishthir Raj Isar. Co-sponsored by UNESCO and the Smithsonian Institution with US/ICOMOS and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. 1986, 252 pp.

A LEGACY FOR ALL: an illustrated guide to 57 of the world's major natural, cultural and historic sites, from the rock-hewn churches of Ivanovo in Bulgaria to Yellowstone National Park in the United States. UNESCO, 1982.

caisse nationale des monuments historiques et des sites

World Heritage

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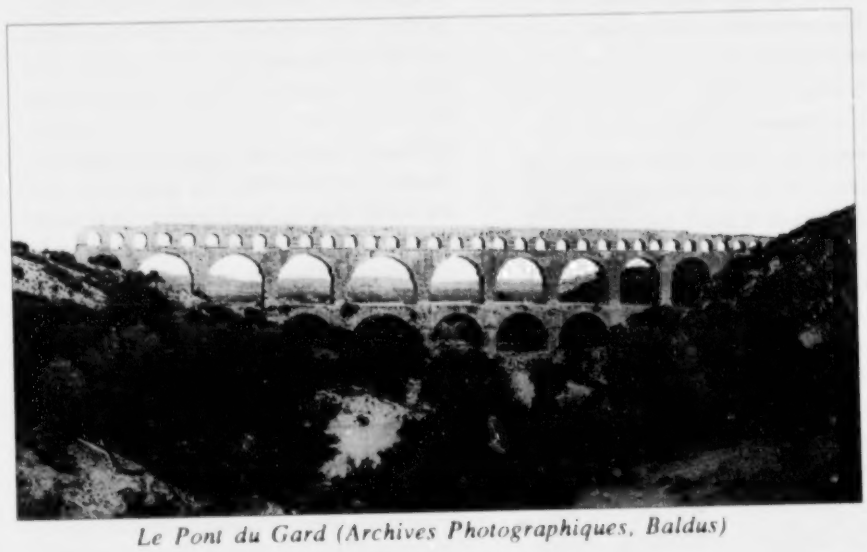

Le Pont du Gard (Archives Photographiques, Baldus)

Places Stanislas, de la Carrière et d'Alliance à Nancy

The theme of the Royal Square is one of the legacies from the Grand Siècle which Enlightenment succeeded in exploiting in all of its consequences and especially in the emergence of new municipal functions which were characteristic of economic and social progress. In the XVIIIth century this symbol of the monarchy represented by the royal effigy shone over monumental urban planning. This theme was widely disseminated from Paris to most of the European courts and it took hold in Lisbon, Copenhagen, as well as Bordeaux, Rennes, Nancy and Brussels. Today these cities are all too often open to automobile traffic and so no longer reflect the original political meaning. But they bear witness yet to the incomparable rise of urban embellishment of the XVIIIth century. In Nancy, not only is the architectural and sculptured decor one of the most magnificent and best preserved (in spite of the disappearance of the statue of Louis XV at the time of the Revolution), but it actually is expressed by an alignment of squares which were all created at the same time. A fourth one, a little bit further away, was added later on, the Place d'Alliance, with an exquisite rock fountain in its centre. These spaces which are decorated with colonnades, triumphal arches, fountains, statues and railings, perpetuate via stone the brilliant holiday decor of the Ancien Régime. These squares were desired by the father-in-law of the King of France, Stanislas Leszczynski who reigned over Lorraine between 1737 and 1766. The purpose of these contiguous squares was to link up the old city with the new city. These squares constitute both a tree lined promenade (Place de la Carrière) and a space for contemplation (the current Place Stanislas, formally Place Royale), and around them were built a number of public buildings: the Town Hall, the Theatre, the College of Surgery, the Stock Exchange and the Palace of the Government. Greatly influenced by his master, G. Boffrand, who had worked for the Duke of Lorraine in Nancy and Lunéville, the creator of the squares, Emmanuel Héré (1705-1763), succeeded in designing an architecture of perfect grace, which is a veritable jewel case dedicated to statues and to the genius of iron working. The fountains were the work of the two sculptors Cyfflé and Guibal, and the famous golden railings are by Jean Lamour. The Place Royale in Nancy was inaugurated in 1755 ■

Office de Tourisme, 14, Place Stanislas, 54011 Nancy cedex - Tél: 83.35.22.41 - Fax: 83.37.63.07.

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HOW TO FEED THE GROWING POPULATIONS in the humid tropics? How to manage natural resources there, without destroying them? Answers to these questions require research and cooperation between the countries of the humid tropics in Latin America, Africa and Asia.
This was the message of the conference "Environmentally Sound Socio-Economic Development for the Humid Tropics" which was held in Manaus in Brazil, hot on the tail of the Earth Summit, from June 13-19.
The 150 participants drew up a programme of cooperation between countries of the humid tropics, but stressed the need for more information and a more *"original way"* of thinking for these regions.
The meeting was organized by UNESCO, the Third World Academy of Sciences, the UN University and UNAMAZ, the organization of universities and research institutions in the Amazonian countries.

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CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE was the theme of the 7th Regional Consultation of the Network of Cooperation in Research and Development for Educational Innovation in South and South-East Europe (CODIESEE), held in Bucharest (Romania) from June 1 to 5.
Some 50 specialists from 23 European countries, and represenatives of regional and international organizations, attended the meeting to discuss strategies for the renewal of school programmes.
The topic was of particular relevance at a time when most of Central and Eastern European countries are planning the introduction of new curricula and textbooks.
Participants recommended elaboration of a regional curriculum project which would support the reform process in this subregion and offer a framework for common activities.

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EARTHWORKS UNDERWAY

The Rio summit set the ball rolling - UNESCO must now run with it

A hundred and seventy-eight national delegations, 117 chiefs of state and prime ministers, 40,000 delegates, experts, specialists, high civil servants, ONG members and 10,000 journalists: whatever its ultimate significance, the Earth Summit (June 3 to 14) has been, by the level and number of its participants, the biggest international conference ever held. As soon as it ended—and even before it started—the event was written off by some and cast in stone by others. The former expected much tougher resolutions, and more resources to achieve them. The latter were eulogistic: *"The twenty-first century begins here,"* said the Senegalese head of state and future Organization of African Unity President, Abdou Diouf.

Trying to evaluate the scope of the Rio conference, however, would be premature. *"The spirit of Rio,"* said UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in his closing speech, *"is the clear conscience of a long-term political duty."* And it is only through this yardstick that the Summit's scope and impact will be objectively measured.

Yet, whatever happens, Rio was an historical moment. The summit marked the official, and global, recognition that the earth's future and therefore the common prospects of its inhabitants is quite simply a human responsibility.

This certainty derives from several basic truths. One is the conviction that planetary development and environmental protection are inseparable. Another is that success in balancing development and environmental protection calls for, in the words of French President François Mitterrand, both *"a commitment to mutual ecological assistance to protect a biosphere common to all"* and *"worldwide solidarity"* so that the South can shake off the terrible yoke of poverty. Lastly, as Boutros Boutros-Ghali stressed, *"the earth is a vast, interdependent web"* and saving it, by protecting the environment and initiating sustainable development, requires cooperation on a global scale.

... PLANETARY DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT ARE INSEPARABLE... (Photo UNESCO/ M. d'Hoop)

"A SPRINGBOARD"

All these convictions found their way into texts that, being the result of inevitable compromises, may seem unassertive or on the contrary too restrictive. Yet these texts have worth in that they were unanimously sanctioned or nearly so, be it the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the declaration on the conservation and sustainable development of forests, the two conventions on biodiversity and climate, or the environment and development agreement, better known as Agenda 21.

"A starting point","a high point on a long path","a springboard": such were the expressions used to underscore that the Summit was but a *"beginning, for almost everything remains to be done."* As the East-West conflict fades into history and relations among nations change, Rio is proof that a stable future will not only rely on peace and security but also on development and respect of the environment. Achievement of the latter is an es-

sential requirement for completion of the former. This evolution (or revolution?) is not only to be obtained in one area or the other: it is also a qualitative endeavor. Echoing statements made by UNESCO representatives at the conference, the UN Secretary General emphasized that *"we must now sign a political and ethical contract with nature, with this Earth ,to which we owe our existence and that provides for us."*

"The UN's role is not to cover up general inaction with words, speeches, reports, or programmes," said Boutros Boutros-Ghali. *"You must act, you must face up to your responsibilities."* Several times, the Secretary General insisted that Agenda 21 - a voluminous catalogue of works to be implemented within the next decade - was *"the cornerstone of international cooperation and activities coordination within the UN framework for many years to come."* Conference Secretary Maurice Strong said forcefully in his closing speech: *"The United Nations will not be the same after this conference"* . The Rio summit thus sketches the main lines of a revival, maybe even an emancipation, of the UN framework on the eve of its 50th anniversary. And UNESCO is ideally placed to ride the wave.

A PIONEERING ROLE

UNESCO prepared substantial documentation for the summit and presented an exhibition on its activities at the ONG "Global Forum". The 10 roundtables on "The Scientific Programmes on Environment and Development," organized by Brazil in cooperation with UNESCO, provided the only opportunity at the summit for specialists to debate such questions publicly. The encounter on "Man, the City and Nature: Culture Today" was the only meeting devoted to human sciences.

The interventions of delegation leaders and the decisions taken, in particular the planning laid out in Agenda 21, show that the Organization's mandate is more up-to-date than ever. Its authors confirm UNESCO's pioneering role in many key disciplines put under the spotlight in Rio. The Organization has a great chance to play a major role in these fields in coming years.

"The spirit of Rio," said Boutros Boutros-Ghali, *"is three-dimensional"*. The most important of these is the intellectual dimension. Within the UN structure, UNESCO is the only agency that can claim this domain as its *raison d'être*. It hinges on an ideal: peace, its guiding ethics (the *"social contract"* between humanity and nature, which the Organization stresses), and the instruments of knowledge needed to achieve it: education, science, culture, communication.

If one sweeping conviction has come out of Rio, it is the fact that an integrated, multidisciplinary approach is the only one possible for development and environmental protection . More precisely, the potential for improvement can only be found at the juncture between education, science, culture, communication, and the juncture between these factors and development as well as the environment. This is exactly what UNESCO endorses.

PRIORITIES

The Rio summit has, in this regard, underlined priorities that directly apply to the Organization. First is education, and in a larger sense human development, according to concepts and modalities arrived at in the 1991 "Education for All" conference in Jomtien, Thailand. Another is to get to know our own planet better, which relates particularly to the Organization's scientific programmes. There is the field of biodiversity, in which UNESCO has been a pioneer for years through its Man and Biosphere (MAB) programme and, since 1991, its Diversitas program. There is also the study of the ocean, covered by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). Also prominently concerned are other UNESCO scientific programmes covering fresh water, desertification, islands - forests, and programmes in the social sciences dealing with population, environment, and development.

"After Rio, all doors are open to us," says Francesco di Castri, Coordinator of UNESCO's environmental programmes. His high hopes were echoed by all his colleagues within the Organization. No one is saying, however, that this new opening is the exclusive domain of UNESCO. As summed up by an astute 12 year-old Canadian girl before the world's leaders in Rio: *"You grown ups say you love us, but we challenge you to make your actions reflect your words ."*

René LEFORT

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Paris was given a glimpse of **THE MUSICAL DIVERSITY OF THE AMERINDIAN WORLD** in a series of performances at UNESCO headquarters in June organized as part of the festivities commemorating the 500th anniversary of the encounter between two worlds (1492-1992).

The PERUVIAN GROUP ANDINO, musicians Lincoln Almada and Gabriel Aguilera, and Bolivia's Teresa Loredo (harpischord) paid tribute to traditional music of the Amerindian culture in separate performances on June 15, 22 and 24. The Mexican vocal ensemble "Ars Nova" gave a performance of medieval and baroque music on June 25, while jazz was the order of the day on June 29 with the international group Makinto, with its compositions linking music of African origin with contemporary music of Black America.

▼

"BIOSPHERE RESERVES IN TROPICAL AMERICA", is the title of a 25' video co-produced by UNESCO and the Washington based organized Conservation International, and released at the Earth Summit in Rio on June eighth.
The documentary features the biosphere reserves of La Amistad in Costa Rica, Maya in Guatamala, Beni in Bolivia, Montes Azules in Mexico and Atlantic Forest Reserve in Brazil and shows how conservation, development, the sustainable use of natural resources and scientific research can be integrated.

☛ *Man and Biosphere Programme*

●

ENERGY, ITS ROLE IN DEVELOPMENT and its impact on the environment, is the theme of a new interregional project being prepared in the framework of UNESCO's Chernobyl programme. Educators from six countries met in Warsaw from June 11 to 13 to make plans for the project which involves two of UNESCO's networks: the Associated Schools Project, and the International Network for Information in Science and Technology Education (INISTE). The interregional project will aim: to promote an interdisciplinary approach to the teaching of energy issues, to introduce innovative pedagogical methods and to facilitate training among schools in Europe and other regions.

▼

***"WHAT LIFESTYLE AND WHAT ACTION** do you propose to avoid taking drugs?"* This question was posed to hundreds of European children, aged 10 to 11, as the theme for a Drawing Competition organized by UNESCO and the City of Paris. On the International Day Against Drug Abuse June 26, prize-winning children from Hungary, Lithuania, Norway and Turkey received awards and were offered a week in Paris along with their teachers to view an exhibition of selected drawings at UNESCO Headquarters from June 22 to 30. For

THE PROPOSITION OF RUNE NILSEN, 11 YEARS (NORWAY).

the opening, *Tides and Waves*, an opera/spectacular built on the theme of youth confronted with drugs, by Polish composer Joana Bruztowicz, was performed in a production by Norma Williams (U.S.) and under the direction of José-Maria Florencio (Brazil).

UNESCO SOURCES

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FAKES CAN BE FATAL

Fraudulent imitation may have disastrous consequences, yet business is booming - at between an annual $60 and $100 billion

Forgeries are amusing. Forging a masterpiece and selling it to an unsuspecting customer is generally considered mischievous trickery. Tolerance can even turn to admiration when the fake ends up in a great museum, sometimes leading to bizarre intellectual controversies. Hasn't a fake everyone can admire in a museum become genuine in its own way? Fake sculptures have existed since ancient Greece and there have always been crooked horse dealers filing horses' teeth to make them appear younger. After all, fakes and forgeries could not hurt anybody, could they?

Yes! They can, and they do. Contrary to what we often think, forging and faking is not a coarse commercial activity hurting only a few rich individuals. It's a world populated not with romantic, dashing smugglers but with gangsters, slave labourers, and sometimes murderers. It's a world whose nefarious activities have disastrous consequences not simply for rich patsies but for entire industrial sectors, creators, and people at large.

A seminar held at UNESCO headquarters on June 16 and 17, at the behest of the International Federation of Senior Police Officers, shed some light on this still obscure underworld. Who and what do forgeries hurt? First come, of course, industry and trade. According to estimates, revenues from fraudulent imitation range from $60 billion to $100 billion a year, about 5% to 6% of total worldwide trade. In Europe, this translates into a possible 100,000 jobs lost.

BIGGEST CULPRITS

Would that mean more jobs in Third World countries, even though they don't appear in official statistics? Probably not. The truth is that a great part of fake production takes place in industrialized countries (Italy stood out as the big culprit during the seminar, designated by the French luxury-product industry as *"ranking second in the world just behind Thailand in product-imitation fraud, with about 7% of world output"*). And conditions in clandestine workshops are below standard: in some cases workers are no more than slaves, maintained in that state by debts they cannot ever hope to pay back.

In some fields, fakes reach such proportions that particular industries are irretrievably damaged. *"If Italian movie production has collapsed,"* says a manager of the French Association Against Audiovisual Piracy, *"it is for the most part because it could no longer draw profits from its movies, due to the spread of audiovisual piracy. On the other hand, countries that have managed to offer relative protection, such as France, have been able to maintain thriving creativity."*

Designers and inventors of all kinds, from music to software, suffer greatly from fraudulent imitation of their ideas. When these people eventually abandon their intellectual activities due to lack of revenues, it won't be the Taiwanese or Italian forgers who invent new software or produce films.

Milagros Del Corral, Director of UNESCO's Book and Copyright Division, emphasized the Organization's continuing action for copyright protection, pointing out, however, that it is undermined by the public's tolerance, sometimes verging on complicity, towards piracy, which is largely viewed as *"facilitating access to education and culture for underprivileged classes by making all intellectual property more affordable."* She also admitted that copyright was very *"easy it is to violate."*

Is finding a legal solution to copyright violation even conceivable when technological means of cultural dissemination have confused the whole issue of intellectual property? André Bossard, from Interpol, tried to answer the question and expressed scepticism: *"Fraudulent imitation has become the privilege of perfectly organized gangster groups,"* he said. *"It is inconceivable that such a source of unlimited revenues could escape from the grip of international crime families."*

Production and distribution of fakes and forgeries, which require *"structured networks,"* are organized *"in ways very similar to those of other great crime rings,"* beginning with drug trafficking.

So Bossard was not surprised to learn that arms and perfume forgeries were found in the same containers in an Amsterdam warehouse. He is not surprised either when labels and import documents of forged

products originate from the same printing plants as do fake identification papers or counterfeit bills.

Even though it is *"very difficult to bring forth legal proof of criminal organization involvement, especially because bosses never touch the merchandise,"* Bossard cited information according to which Japanese *Yazukas*, Hong Kong *Triads*, and, in the United States, the *Cosa Nostra* control such trades.

Finally he stressed how *"ill-fitted the international response to fraudulent imitation seems to be."* He suggested that such response be based on the conventions for counterfeit repression, which are particularly comprehensive and severe (for they defend a fundamental state right: printing money). Today, for example, penalties are 10 to 20 times less severe for counterfeiting credit cards than they are for bills.

ANTI-COUNTERFEITING CODE

Alain Thrierr, Director of the French Union of Manufacturers for the International Protection of Industrial and Artistic Property, suggested *"sanctions against states letting fraudulent imitation develop within their borders,"* but Bossard reminded him of the *"serious restraints"* hindering adoption of an anti-counterfeiting code within the General Agreement on Trades and Tariffs (GATT).

Moreover, in Europe, he added, where the advent of the Common Market will allow the free flow of merchandise starting in 1993, the term *"fraudulent imitation"* is not mentioned in any text.

"Today, cooperation in this field is still the monopoly of non-governmental organizations," said Bossard. The necessity to fight this scourge seems to him all the greater since *"everything can be forged, and in fact everything is,"* with sometimes dramatic consequences.

Thus were discovered forged car components or airplane landing gears, all of course deficient, as well as forged surgical equipment, forged pesticides (which, made in Spain, devastated entire coffee fields in Kenya), or forged pacemakers.

Forged medicine was found in abundance too: fake vitamins everywhere, fake anti-malarial pills in Nigeria, fake Mandrax in North America, fake amphetamines in a dozen countries in 1972-74, fake contraceptive pills and fake antibiotics in Italy, fake anti-ulcer medicine impounded in the Netherlands, fake barbiturates made in Northern Europe and sold in Africa.

Doctor Fernando Antezana, Director of the "Action Programme on Essential Drugs" at the World Health Organization cited results of a 1988 survey according to which forged medicine is a $12 billion a year industry, about 6% of total pharmaceutical revenues worldwide. *"Fifty-one percent are made illegally in the European Community, and 46% are sold to developing countries."*

In Nigeria in September 1990, 109 children died after swallowing cough syrup that was, in fact, industrial solvent.

Nicolas MICHAUX

Copyright

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW ENERGY STRATEGIES for Central and Eastern Europe was the theme of a round table held at Headquarters from June 22 to 26.
The third in a series of such encounters, the meeting was sponsored by UNESCO and the French utility, Electricité de France (EDF).
The debate focused on socio-political as well as economic aspects of energy development, including financing and investment needs, and the feasibility of developing new types of energy sources.
Pricing schemes, international cooperation, regulatory structures, and environmental issues were also discussed.

▼

The Spanish scientist and painter, ***FRANCISCO TORRENT,*** not content with international renown for his research into the structure and functioning of the heart, displayed his artistic talents with an exhibition, "Luminia", at Headquarters from June 14 to 27.
Torrent's creations, illuminated from within, forming a tight marriage of painting and sculpture, of light and perspective, give the illusion of relief as his chosen material - wood - in perpetual transformation, becomes a stone church, a tile roof, a sandy village street, an old bridge...

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A new **"SIMULATION MODEL FOR EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT"** (SIMEDUC 1.1) provides educational planners with a "ready-to-wear" tool, easily adaptable to characteristics of their country - in contrast with others "tailor-made" for a specific country. Produced by UNESCO's Operational Policy and Sector Analysis Division, the model uses the Lotus 1,2,3 spreadsheet, consists of four modules: "Enrolment projects," "Evolution of recurrent costs", "Expenses, resources and financial balance," and a "Summary of projects and main indicators", and covers a period of 16 years - the reference year and three five-year projection periods. Also available: "Education and Training Under Conditions of Economic Austerity and Restructuring", a 44-page booklet produced by the Division in the framework of a UNESCO-ILO Inter-agency Task Force.

☛ *Bureau for the Co-Ordination of Operational Activities*

▼

OVER NINE MILLION "Earth Pledge" signatures have been secured by UNESCO in 36 countries. The signatures were collected during a campaign launched last February to mobilize public awareness around the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) held in Rio last month. Thus, each signatory, *"recognizing that people's actions towards nature and each other are the source of growing damage to the environment and resources needed to meet human needs and to ensure survival and development,"* pledges to *"act to the best of my ability to help make the Earth a secure and hospitable home for present and future generations."* As a vehicle for a broad based popular movement, the Earth Pledge has not only served to promote UNCED, but is also catalyzing a wide range of follow-up programmes.

UNESCO SOURCES

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SCHOOLS ON THE MOVE

Nigeria is building an educational programme specifically for children of nomads

"I'd like to become a nurse," says 12-year-old Salamatu, dressed in her school's uniform. Her school will help make her dream come true. Opened in September 1990 in Kaduna state, it comprises four classes, each with about 40 students aged six to 18, all nomads. *"The mass literacy programme in Nigeria would be deficient if it did not deal with nomads,"* says Chimah Ezeomah, manager of the National Commission for the Education of Nomads.

Across the country there are today 610 schools specifically aimed at nomads, with more than 42,000 students. Classes are sometimes conducted in the shade of a tree by mobile teams of teachers. Lessons are also taped or broadcast. But the concept of education specific to nomads is recent, dating back to a survey conducted from 1983 to 1988 with the help of UNESCO and the UN Development Program (UNDP) which contributed $300,000. The National Commission for the Education of Nomads was born soon after.

The initiative, however, got off to a slow start. Since no specific programme existed, the National Council on Education finally approved, in August 1991, a primary education programme, whose goal is to help communities develop economically, thereby giving them a sense of belonging to the nation and opening them up to the world. This means being able to tend cattle, read papers, calculate taxes, participate in elections, write letters, do simple bookkeeping, etc.

Schools should also support behavioral changes. *"Sedentarization has become unavoidable,"* says a document published in 1988 by the Ministry of Education, which, moreover, adds that this is, in fact, *"the unanimous wish expressed by nomads through their association, Mietti Allah Cattle Breeders."*

The undertaking is entirely managed by the Commission, with UNESCO playing an advisory role. A new 5-year development stage, starting in 1993, will help put together a teaching programme, train educators, and buy equipment - with $2 million in additional funding from UNDP.

MATERIAL AND CULTURAL OBSTACLES

Nigeria's nomadic population is estimated at 6.5 million of which about two million are school-age children. Generalizing education for them has been hindered by many material as well as cultural obstacles.

"If the government really wants to educate nomads," says Bimbi, a Fulani who works with the Commission, *"it must invest more money to provide basic infrastructure, greenery, and watering holes. Education is not in the nomad's nature. It should be dispensed through educated nomads themselves"*. This would enable nomads, who are very particular on this point, to control their children's education.

For Bimbi, the settling down of tribes is possible provided they have their own space and avoid conflicts, no simple matter.

"My family has been living here for generations but we're still considered foreigners," he said.

N. M.
(with Dupe Lawani in Nigeria)

OUT OF SIGHT, OUT OF MIND

At World Conference, small islands seek solutions to big problems

Everything is difficult here - medical care, transport, telephones ... and they are in the front line of any catastrophe. And yet "When islands are out of sight, they're out of mind," lamented the president of the autonomous Portuguese Azores islands, Joao Mota Amaral. *"In fact,"* he added, *""International organizations are just beginning to recognize that islands have a life of their own."*

UNESCO's "Mr Island" , Pier Giovanni Ayala, does not agree. *"UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere programme (MAB) has been interested in islands since the early 1970s,"* he said at the latest of many initiatives, an international conference on island development held in Giardini Naxos, Sicily, from May 19 to 22. Entitled "Islands 2000" the Conference was organized by INSULA, the International Council for Island Development, a MAB-sponsored non-governmental organization.

Many of the 250 participants listened with envy to Japan's representative, Yoshinori Ugajin, explaining that his government allocated a billion dollars each year for public works in *"remote islands"*.

Yet it was clear from the beginning that no simple solutions were at hand. *"Building bridges, ports and airports is fine,"* said French geographer Louis Brigand, *"but they serve no purrpose on islands where most of the youth has left"*.

Ugajin readily admits that the population of islands under his control has decreased from a million to 600,000 in 30 years. And grumbles Gianfranco Rosseto, an EC official, *"treated like extensions of the continent, islands are dealt with exclusively through compensation and derogation, with little concern for real problems"*.

But, *"scrapping subsidies amounts to taking away an invalid's crutches"*, retorted an academic from Guadeloupe, insisting that aid has attenuated social tensions and stemmed the population exodus.

Islands would like to make it on their own, but how? Fishing is no longer what it was. Agriculture? John Ashe, from Antigua and Barbuda sums up the history of the Caribbean where *"sugar was once King"*. but since the 60s, *"is worth nothing"*. When his country obtained independence in 1981, it was virtually bankrupt.

Mining? Nauru in the Pacific has literally consumed itself by digging desperately for phosphates. Wood? Deforestation rapidly becomes dramatic.

So does the advent of tourism suggest there may be a God after all? Not necessarily. The Greek gods, for instance, blew hot and cold. Pressure on certain islands is becoming intolerable. Still, the Bahamas for one draws 60% of GNP from tourism.

Indeed, calls for "balanced development" and "eco-tourism" rang flat in the hotel, situated on a devastated coastline, where the conference was held. Nonetheless participants agreed that the meeting itself marked a big step forward.

Encouraged by Jackie Wynter (Jamaica), responsible for UNESCO's relations with small countries, who called on islanders to consider their situation as an advantage and not a handicap, the specialists agreed to meet again in two years.

Nicolas MICHAUX

●

MOLDOVA on May 27, **CROATIA** on June 1, **KYRGYZSTAN** on June 2, **AZERBAIJAN** on June 3, and **ARMENIA** on June 9 became Member States of UNESCO after signing the Organization's Constitution and depositing an instrument of acceptance. Adhesion of these countries brings UNESCO's membership to 170.

▼

An ***INTERGOVERNMENTAL SOCIAL SCIENCE PROGRAMME (ISSP),*** aimed at bridging the gap between policy-makers, social actors who use social science research, and academics/researchers, will soon to be launched by UNESCO. The linking of these three worlds, proponents contend, will strengthen the social sciences, legitimize them in the eyes of policy-makers and governments and create an awareness of their usefulness. To help define the structure of the new Programme, some 40 social scientists, policy-makers and those responsible in the private sector for applying social science research and techniques in their enterprises, met at Paris Headquarters from June 1 to 3. They also discussed the ISSP Feasibility Study which will be presented to UNESCO's Executive Board for approval next October.

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